

DEFECTS IN OUR SCHOOLS.

WHAT THE TEACHERS SAY OF THEIR PROTEST TO THE BOARD.

Too Many Studies Prescribed and Too Many Castles Ruins—Teachers and Pupils So Hampered as to Seriously Impede the Reciprocal Duties of Both.

There is deep feeling back of the memorial sent to the Board of Education on Wednesday by the Association of Female Principals of the Grammar Department and the Association of Principals of the Primary Departments and Schools requesting a modification of the requirements governing studies and instruction in the public schools. The communication was signed by Helen M. Rogers, president of the Association of Female Principals, and Presidents respectively of the two associations, and 151 other principals, making the request practically a unanimous one on the part of the teachers in these associations. The communication informed the Board that at a joint meeting of the association, held on Feb. 20, it was resolved to lay before the Board the following:

First.—That the requirements of each grade as prescribed by the present course of studies (both regular and manual training), cannot be intelligently or thoroughly met in the allotted time.

Second.—That too much written work is required for each grade.

Third.—That under the burden of attending to the impossible, positive injury is done to both pupils and teachers.

In view of the foregoing facts, we respectfully ask such a modification of the present course of studies as shall enable us to intelligently and thoroughly meet the requirements of law.

The communication was addressed to the President and members of the Board of Education, and to make sure that no member should have the opportunity to say, by and by, that he had not seen the resolutions or been informed of the facts which the principals desired to bring to his attention, a copy of the memorial was sent to the home or business address of each member, to be delivered after the meeting. The principals hope to receive early attention from the Board, but they hardly dare say that they look confidently for eager support from Commissioner Hunt, Chairman of the committee on instruction, to whom the communication was referred for conference and report.

As one of them said to a reporter: "Of course, we are ready to hear Mr. Hunt say, 'Oh, all they want is less work and more pay.'"

Mr. Hunt is reported to be in no hurry to take up the matter, but to be willing it should take its course.

Miss Rogers, when asked to explain in detail the position of the principals, said that the requirements were so rigid that it was impossible to do justice to the pupils or to the studies, and that the strenuous efforts to conform to them in a manner satisfactory to the principal superintendents were having a serious effect upon the health, both of the pupils and the teachers, and all without the desired benefit to the pupils. She said, in substance:

"The course of instruction has been added to from time to time for several years, without a corresponding change of hours, until it has become almost impossible for the teachers to do all the lessons that it is obligatory upon them to teach. But the principals and teachers will do it, and the children will do it, and then it is found to be out of the question to give proper instruction in the several branches, for the time is not time enough to do the work. The principals and teachers are simply beyond the grasp of the children."

"A minimum of studies which must be devoted to particular studies that are enumerated. This amounts to about 60 per cent. of the total of school hours. The principals and teachers are simply beyond the grasp of the children."

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AGAINST RUSSELL SAGE.

LADLAW'S \$40,000 VERDICT AFFIRMED ON APPEAL.

Case Now Goes to the Court of Appeals—Justices of the Appellate Division Say They Do Not Consider the Verdict Excessive—\$25,000 Costs Due to Ladlaw.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court affirmed yesterday the judgment of \$40,000 obtained by William R. Ladlaw against Russell Sage. The decision was written by Justice Patterson, all the Justices concurring.

Ladlaw's suit was tried three times before the jury on the fourth trial rendered the judgment just affirmed. Ladlaw was injured Dec. 4, 1891, at the time the madman, Norcross, attempted to blow up Sage's office at 71 Broadway. Ladlaw alleged that Sage purposely used him as a shield.

The suit was begun May 26, 1892. In June following the complaint was dismissed by Justice Andrews. The effect of the order was a new trial. This was held in April, 1894, before Justice Patterson and a jury, and resulted in a verdict for Ladlaw of \$25,000. The General Term reversed that finding, and a third trial in January, 1895, resulted in a disagreement. The fourth trial was before Justice Ingraham and a jury last week.

The decision brushes aside the exceptions to Justice Ingraham's charge to the jury in these words: "With the single exception of the so-called shifting of the burden of proof the charge was entirely correct in the main features objected to, and if there was an error, that, regarding it was greatly to the advantage of Russell Sage."

The objections to the charge were that it was a shifting of the burden of proof, and that it was a shifting of the burden of proof. The objections were that it was a shifting of the burden of proof, and that it was a shifting of the burden of proof.

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THE IMPROVED Welsbach Gas Light.

LIGHT.

of the efficacy and economy of the Welsbach Incandescent Gas Light, is to burn it side by side with an ordinary burner—use the same kind of fixture, the same quality of gas, and register the consumption of each burner on the same meter.

will prove three times as brilliant as the ordinary jet. Instead of a yellowish, flickering flame, it gives a light as white as snow, as steady as the sun, as soft as silk.

The meter will settle the question of economy by showing a saving of 50 per cent. for the Welsbach Light. If you want further proof of this, call at the retail department.

931 Broadway.
121 W. 125th Street.
2659 3rd Avenue.
74 Cooper Union.
217 Amsterdam Avenue.

For sale at

THE GRAMERCY.
At Gramercy Park, corner 20th and 17th Streets, New York City.

For rent—One furnished bachelor apartment. Call or address 105 Broadway, 2nd floor.

Board Wanted.
YOUNG LADY desires board; refined private family; \$10.00 per week; call on Mrs. WELLS, 26th Street.

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ALLEGED MURDERER'S HERITAGE.

CASHIER BARNARD'S SHORTAGE.

Reference Godkin's Report that Mr. Fleming Can't Have the Money Criticized.
Lawrence Godkin, referee, reported to the Supreme Court that Mary Alice Almont Livingston Fleming, under indictment for poisoning her mother, Mrs. Biss, ought not to be put into possession of \$25,000 of her mother's life estate, which, under the will of her father, was to vest in the prisoner upon her mother's death. Her right was questioned at the instance of cousins, Gratz Nathan, for Mrs. Fleming, confirmed, before Justice Pryor yesterday, the confirmation of the referee's report.

The attitude on the part of the cousins of the woman who seek to intervene is not respectable. One would suppose that her relatives at such a time as this would put their hands in their pockets to provide her with money for her defense. Instead, they throw barriers in her way and prevent her coming into her own money, which she now sorely needs to clear herself of this charge, but from distant parts of the country, seeing a chance to enrich themselves, they have sprung up to oppose her.

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DAN TALMAGE'S SONS FAIL.

LIABILITIES NOT KNOWN, BUT ESTIMATED AT \$250,000 OR SO.

John F. and Daniel Talmage (Dan Talmage's Sons), merchants and millers of rice at 115 Wall Street, made an assignment yesterday to Joseph G. L. Talbot, giving preferences for \$14,574 to sixty-nine creditors. Of this amount \$12,341 is due to the bank, and the balance is due to various other creditors. The assignment was made on account of rough rice delivered to the firm, the amounts ranging from \$20 to \$1,500. Raveland & Co. of Charleston are preferred for \$1,347, and the National Rice Milling Company of Wilmington, N. C., for \$800. The firm has a mill for polishing rice at Columbia, S. C., and branches at New York, New Orleans and Charleston. The house is an old one, having been established in 1850. John F. Talmage has been a director in the National Rice Milling Company since its organization. He was recently elected to the bank on the purchase of the property.

In October last the firm reported that they had made some money, and that they were in a position to pay their debts. They had only moderate liabilities. Strong, Harlow & Mott, attorneys, who were retained by the firm, said yesterday that on account of the extended business of the firm it was impossible to give a list of the liabilities and assets. Schedules are being prepared which it is hoped will be completed next week. A meeting of creditors will be called shortly and no doubt some propositions will be considered for the speedy redemption of the business. The firm was in a position to pay its debts, but the assignment was made on account of the extended business of the firm it was impossible to give a list of the liabilities and assets. Schedules are being prepared which it is hoped will be completed next week. A meeting of creditors will be called shortly and no doubt some propositions will be considered for the speedy redemption of the business.

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